

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 045369

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

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CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINR, SOPN, MASS, SF, US

SUBJECT: PUBLICATION OF CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS SAID TO
PERTAIN TO SOUTH AFRICA

REF: CAPETOWN 0182

1. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE ON SUBJECTS PARA 1 REFTEL:

QUOTE: Q. HOW REFLECTIVE OF CURRENT U.S. POLICY TOWARD
SOUTH AFRICA IS THE QUOTATION FROM THE BRUCE OUDES ARTICLE
IN FEBRUARY 22 BALTIMORE SUN OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY
DECISION MEMORANDUM 81? A. WE DO NOT COMMENT ON LEAKED
DOCUMENTS PURPORTING TO BE STATEMENTS OF U.S. POLICY.

Q. HAVE WE CHANGED OUR POLICY ON SELLING MILITARY AIRCRAFT
TO SOUTH AFRICA? A. SINCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ARMS
EMBARGO AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA, WE HAVE NOT LICENSED THE
EXPORT OF MILITARY AIRCRAFT TO SOUTH AFRICA. Q. IT WAS
RECENTLY REPORTED THAT SEVERAL U.S. SENATORS HAD SENT A
LETTER TO PRESIDENT FORD REQUESTING THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO
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PAGE 02 STATE 045369

RECONSIDER THE ARMS EMBARGO CURRENTLY IN EFFECT AGAINST

SOUTH AFRICA. WHAT ARE THE DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON THIS LETTER? A. IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO COMMENT ON ANY CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE CONGRESS AND THE WHITE HOUSE. UNQUOTE. GUIDANCE NOT YET USED.

2. DOCUMENT PURPORTING TO BE NSDM 81 WAS QUOTED IN ARTICLE BY BRUCE OUDES IN BALTIMORE SUN OF 22 FEB.

3. A LETTER OF 22 JANUARY FROM TWENTY-ONE U.S. SENATORS TO THE PRESIDENT REQUESTED A RE-EXAMINATION OF OUR POLICY TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA. THE LETTER CRITICIZES OUR CURRENT POLICY TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA, IN PARTICULAR OUR ARMS EMBARGO POLICY, EX-IM POLICY, AND POLICY ON U.S. NAVAL SHIP VISITS.

4. AMBASSADOR BOWDLER WILL CARRY BOTH TEXTS ON HIS RETURN TO CAPETOWN. KISSINGER

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